

## AUSTRALIAN ASSETS GO UNDER THE HAMMER

In the past six weeks, AUD\$10.4 billion of Australian assets have been quietly handed over to foreign interests, with hardly a mention in the media!

The sell-off includes:

- 25% of Qantas to British Airways, plus another 27% to foreign investors in a recent AUD\$1.45 billion float;
- Pacific Dunlop's food operations to the Swiss and the US for AUD\$1.06 billion;
- one of Victoria's major electricity distribution corporations for AUD\$1.85 billion;
- Australia's second largest life insurance company, National Mutual, to French group AXA for AUD\$1.6 billion;
- building and plastics company BTR Nylex to the British for a record \$4.5 billion;
- plus a bundle of commercial and residential properties.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics refuses to publish the official measure of the level of foreign investment across the different industry sectors, but Australian Consumers Association research shows the following: Food, 85% foreign-owned; Beer, 50%; Car Manufacturing, 98%; Engineering and Construction, 67%; Advertising, 80%; Hotels, 90%; Print Media, 60%.

The purchase of Australian assets by foreigners includes every asset the companies have under their corporate banner.

To give just one example, with the sale



of National Mutual, French company AXA gained control of Australia's largest sheep-farming operations—National Mutual being considered the country's biggest wool producer, as well as having enormous cotton, crop and beef interests. This means that Australian wool-growing is now, in effect, in the hands of the Champs Elysées farmers.

It may come as a surprise to most to learn that the Australian Bureau of Statistics places the USA as the biggest foreign investor at AUD\$85.2 billion, followed by the UK at AUD\$74.5 billion, Japan at AUD\$48.9 billion and Hong Kong at AUD\$14.4 billion.

(Source: *The Sun-Herald*, 3 September 1995)

## COMET HALE-BOPP, FOR THE NON-ASTRONOMER

The Hale-Bopp comet (C/1995 01) was discovered on 23rd July 1995 by Alan Hale, New Mexico, and Thomas Bopp, Arizona.

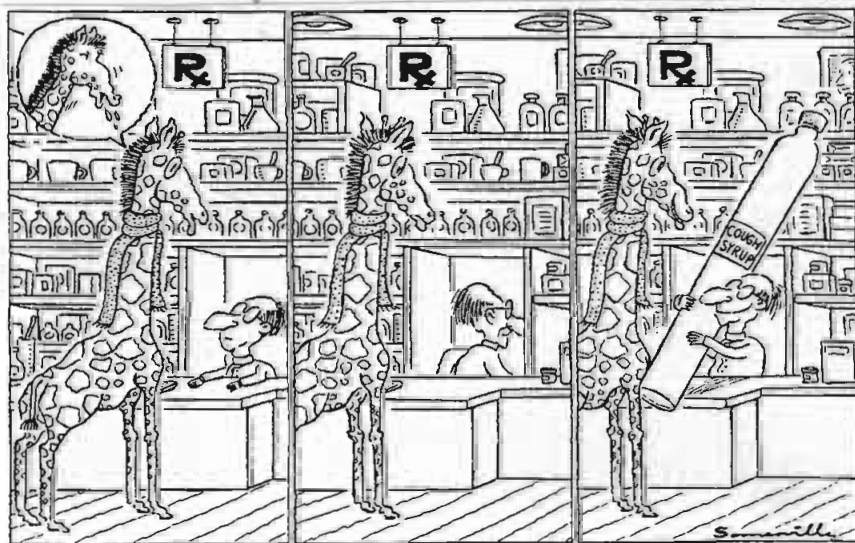
The orbit of this comet is of a long period—approximately 3,250 years. It has travelled through the inner solar system before—that is, it is not a new comet from the Oort Cloud. Its orbit is a very long, stretched-out ellipse, and the comet is part of our solar system in orbit around our Sun.

Comet Hale-Bopp is expected to reach its closest point to the Sun (perihelion) at 15.4 hours UTC on 1st April 1997 (no fooling!). At that time it will be about 0.913 astronomical units from the Sun (one AU = about 93 million miles or 150 million kilometers—the distance between the Sun and the Earth), or roughly 85 million miles (137 million kilometers) from the Sun. This is not a particularly close approach to the Sun, but any comet that comes within 1 AU of the Sun has a chance of putting on a nice show.

The comet will make its closest approach to the Earth on 23rd March 1997. At that time it will be more than 120 million miles (194 million kilometers) from Earth—not even a very close approach! Will the comet 'cross' the Earth's orbit? Well, yes and no... The comet will come closer to the Sun than the Earth, but it will never actually physically cross any point in space that is occupied by the Earth—so it can't hit the Earth!

The comet will be best seen from the southern hemisphere (and lower northern latitudes) except when it is expected to be at its brightest. In March and April 1997 it will only be easily visible from the northern hemisphere.

There have been reports that this comet is very large. Actually, the heart of the comet—the nucleus—is obscured by the dust and gas that forms the head of the comet. Nobody knows how large the nucleus is. We can't see it! The nuclei of comets range in size from a few miles (kilometers) or smaller, to over 100 miles (160 kilometers) in diameter. The brightness of the comet is not always directly related to the size of the nucleus. This is because, typically, only a fraction of the surface of a comet's nucleus is active. It is



possible that this comet has a small nucleus with most of its surface emitting dust and gas. It is also possible that this comet has a large nucleus with only a small active region. We just don't know.

(Sources: Charles S. Morris, email [csm@encke.jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:csm@encke.jpl.nasa.gov); Stan Deyo's *WATT's News*, no. 2, September 1995)

## COMET HALE-BOPP, FOR THE NEXUS READER

Many people have asked the question, "With all that gear out there, how come the experts didn't discover Hale-Bopp first?" Or did they?

What follows is a titbit emailed to NEXUS. Make of it what you will.

The Truth About Hale-Bopp?

From the Art Bell Radio Web

Date: 7 Aug 1995

From: [wmtim@aol.com](mailto:wmtim@aol.com) (WmTim)

I work at an institution that studies data gathered from a number of 'outward-looking' satellites. We first saw Hale-Bopp on July 3rd. We have determined that it has made a number of course-corrections since that time. Once we confirmed the data that first suggested these corrections, government 'spooks' from some unidentified agency seized the data, and our satellite links were shut down "for maintenance". Never before have we lost all our links at once. Our name for the 'comet' was "Contact 070795B". Use that name when asking questions and see the result you get.

(Source: Stan Deyo's *WATT's News*, no. 2, September 1995)

## THE NEW POLITICALLY CORRECT BIBLE

The *New Testament* got a major facelift in September, with a new English translation eliminating references to God the Father, turning the Son of Man into "the human one" and removing accusations that Jews killed Christ.

This new politically correct version, published by Oxford University Press, says children should not "obey" their parents but "heed" them; wives are no longer "subject" to their husbands but "committed" to them; "darkness" is no longer equated with evil because of its racist overtones; and the Lord's Prayer now begins with "Our Father-Mother in Heaven".

References to the "right hand of God" are also deleted, eliminating possible embarrassment to left-handed people. It now becomes "God's mighty hand".

*The New Testament and Psalms: An*

*Inclusive Version* also eliminates all references to the Jews killing Jesus, which makes it the first translation of the Bible to take on the issue of anti-Semitism.

The translation also makes a great effort to reduce the number of times God is referred to as Lord, because lords as a ruling group are passé.

The word "slaves" is also dropped in the new translation, replaced by "people who were enslaved", and the phrase "the blind" becomes "people who are blind". However, the editors did draw the line at calling disabled people "differently abled".

(Sources: [kalivas@aol.com](mailto:kalivas@aol.com) via the Internet; *Weekly Telegraph*, 6-12 September 1995)

## IS THERE SUBLIMINAL SEX IN "THE LION KING"?

Stafford, Virginia, USA — A Christian group wants Walt Disney Co. to remove *The Lion King* from video stores, claiming the cartoon movie briefly, and subliminally, shows the word "sex".

The American Life League, which claims to be the nation's largest anti-abortion group, was alerted to the brief appearance of the word by a woman who said her four-year-old son noticed it.

After seeing that the word appears to be formed by a dissipating cloud of dust about midway through the movie, the group is encouraging people to write to Disney to complain.

As the dust begins to trail off, it appears to form the letters S-E-X, with each letter fading as the next becomes clear, the group claims.

(Source: *Sunshine Coast Daily*, 2 September 1995)

## ALIENS (NOT BIG BANG) CREATED OUR UNIVERSE?

An amazing article published in the September 1995 issue of the quarterly *Journal* of the Royal Astronomical Society is seriously exploring the notion that our universe may have been created by beings of superior intelligence living in another universe.

Consider the following from the news release:

"...Modern cosmology has reached the stage where this form of creation is a strong possibility.

Perhaps highly intelligent beings in our universe, such as our descendants in the far future, will also create universes. Plausibly the creation of universes is the natural consequence of life evolving to a very high level of intelligence."

Why is our universe so carefully designed the way it is? Because it was created by intelligent beings basically similar to us. The universe they occupied was compatible with their existence and therefore finely tuned and basically similar to our own universe. Our universe inherits the characteristics of its parent universe except for small random or designed genetic variations in the values of the fundamental constants.

The article, titled "The Natural Selection of Universes Containing Intelligent Life", suggests that "the creation of our universe was not a mysterious supernatural event by a supreme being beyond human comprehension, but a natural event caused by superior beings (angels) essentially similar to ourselves and hence comprehensible."

(Source: Edward Harrison, news release for *Royal Astronomical Society*, 14 August 1995)

## EUROPE PAYS TO LET FOOD ROT

Nearly three million tons of fruit and vegetables, including almost a million tons of apples, were destroyed in 1993, at a cost of £439 million (AUD\$900 million), under the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy.

More than 720,000 tons of peaches, over half a million tons of oranges and 165,000 tons of nectarines were also taken off the market by farmers paid by Brussels to destroy their own produce.



British taxpayers alone paid £57 million (AUD\$120 million) towards the cost of destroying fruit and vegetables of almost every type grown in Europe.

All were fit for human consumption.

Here you have a scheme whereby European taxpayers are funding a scheme which keeps the price of fruit and vegetables artificially high by destroying perfectly good produce.

The fruit is destroyed by being buried in the ground and allowed to rot.

(Source: *The Daily Telegraph* [UK], 7 August 1995)

## SMART CARDS TO STOP CAR THEFT, AND THE REST

Under a new driver licensing system being developed in Sweden, police will be able to shut down your car's engine by remote control instead of chasing you all over the highways and back streets.

The new smart card licence does everything from starting your car to ensuring you pass an alcohol breath-test each time you drive.

Computer-linked to police stations, the new licence will make use of onboard computers to allow police to shut down the ignition systems of stolen cars, cars with outstanding fines or warrants and cars out of registration.

The system operates through a computer installed in the car and run by the electronic driver's licence (EDL) encoded with the driver's specific details.

Car keys, steering locks and ignitions will all be replaced by a card-reader about the same size as a car stereo.

In the future, when you go to get into your car, the computer will first check that the driver's licence details on the card are

valid and pre-programmed for driving that car. This check is performed twice, once when you go to open the car door, and once when you put the card into the computer to start the car. The car will not start if the computer rejects the card.

According to the developers, you can even stipulate that the car won't start until the driver has passed an alcohol or drug test—with a test unit about the size of an electric shaver installed in the glove box of the cars of convicted offenders.

The licence will also store personal medical details so as to provide information to police or ambulance officers in case of an accident or when 'needed'.

(Source: *Sunday Telegraph*, 20 August 1995)

## CLEAN WATER—THE 'GOLD' OF THE FUTURE?

According to the World Bank, water will be the most sought-after natural resource and the most likely cause of wars in the 21st century.

Chronic water shortages already affect 40% of the world's population in 80 countries, and the situation will become far worse with an expanding population and a growing demand for water.

The main constraint on food production in the developing world has been a shortage of land, but it would be a scarcity of water in the future, as a World Bank study has found.

Global demand for water is increasing by 2.3% a year, doubling every 21 years.

It is estimated that a billion people in the world today do not have access to clean drinking water, and almost as many again lack adequate sanitation.

(Sources: *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian*, 8 August 1995)

## ALIEN ABDUCTIONS DOCTOR SURVIVES CLOSE ENCOUNTER!

Harvard University psychiatrist Dr John E. Mack, Pulitzer Prizewinner and author of the best-selling book, *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens*, has survived a gruelling year-long academic panel investigation into his research methods.

The peer-review committee was set up to establish whether Dr Mack had tried to treat rather than merely study individuals claiming to have been abducted by and even sexually experimented upon by alien beings. Considering that psychiatrists are trained to counsel patients in therapeutic settings, the need for this sort of review is rather odd.

Could it be that the issue at stake is more academic control versus freedom, rather than the welfare of people who genuinely believe in the reality of their abduction experiences?

The Mack attack was unfounded, and the Harvard Medical School has upheld his freedom "to study what he wishes and to state his conclusions without impediment". Dr Mack has issued no comment on the ruling, and the panel has made no statement about the validity or otherwise of the abductees' experiences.

Mainstream psychiatry still might not take the abduction phenomenon seriously, but at least Dr Mack can look forward to continuing his work without too much Earthly harassment.

(Sources: *Nature*, vol. 374, 4 May 1995, vol. 376, 10 August 1995; *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 August 1995)

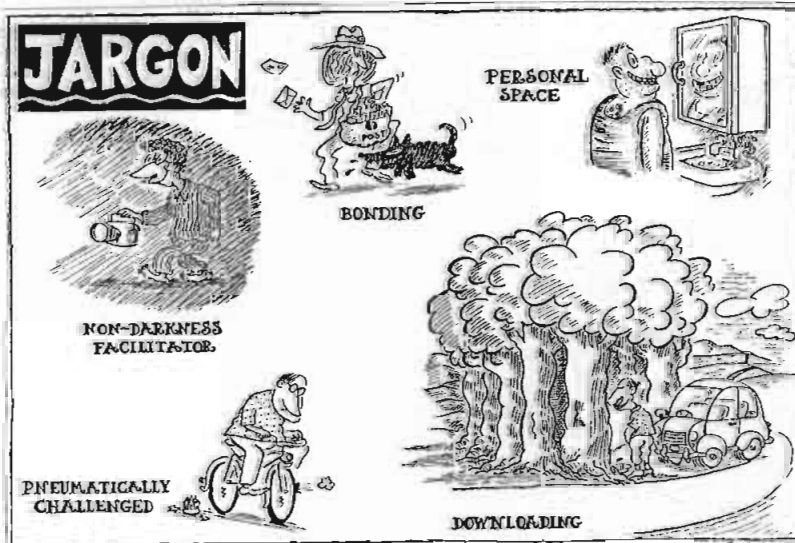
## EUROPEAN UNION BANS BOVINE GROWTH HORMONE UNTIL THE YEAR 2000

On 14th December 1994, the European Council of Ministers imposed a ban through the year 2000 on the commercial use of the controversial, genetically engineered, bovine growth hormone.

In the USA, on 3rd February 1994 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the injection of the hormone into dairy cows in the United States.

Over the objections of consumers and farmers, the FDA also severely restricted dairy producers' ability to label products produced by this hormone.

Friederich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf, Vice President of the EU Agriculture Committee, wrote in a letter to FDA Commissioner, David Kessler, that, "Consumers in the European Union...are apparently much more concerned about the



unresolved human health issues related to bovine growth hormone than your Agency was when it authorised the product."

This is not true. There has been a huge outcry in the US regarding the introduction of rBGH/rBST, but the FDA has ignored it.

(Source: *Citizens For Health Report*, Vol.3:1, 1995)

## CLASS ACTION SUIT AGAINST THE FDA

The Life Extension Foundation has engaged an Illinois attorney to file a class-action suit against the FDA, Chicago branch, on behalf of a growing number of people who have had "unapproved" drugs (vitamins, herbs, mineral supplements), ordered for personal use, illegally detained by the FDA.

The suit is justified on the basis that the FDA's official public policy permits individuals to import small amounts of unapproved drugs and substances for personal use without fear of reprisal.

The action against the FDA's Chicago branch is part of a larger public outcry against FDA excesses in general, especially with respect to alternative medicine where it too often takes an armed Gestapo approach to regulation.

In January this year, the Washington Legal Foundation took out a full-page ad in *The New York Times* with a banner headline, "The problem with health care in America is the FDA".

(Source: *Alternative Medicine Digest*, vol. 7, no. 7, July 1995)

## DON'T LISTEN TO PROZAC

In case you've been tempted to try out the highly popular antidepressant drug Prozac, think again. Be advised that just because the FDA approved it, this doesn't mean it's safe. In fact, the mounting evidence suggests it is far from safe. The FDA has received more adverse reaction reports for Prozac than for any other product in the last 24 years.

The FDA doesn't want anyone to know that as far back as September 1993 it had received 28,623 reports of adverse reactions to the drug. This is 10 times the number reported for Halcion, another psychiatric drug that was eventually banned in the UK, but not in the USA.

The adverse reactions to Prozac include convulsions, hallucinations, aggression, delirium, violent hostility and psychosis. Add to this the reports of 1,885 attempted suicides and 1,734 deaths (1,089 by suicides), and Prozac's real story emerges.

(Source: *Perceptions*, Fall 1994)

## VACCINATION TRACKING SYSTEM COMING OUR WAY (LIKE IT OR NOT!)

The Australian Government, as part of the 1995-96 Budget, has allocated funds to trial a National Childhood Immunisation Register. The Register will provide information on the vaccination status of virtually every baby born in this country. (The only exceptions are those who are not in Medicare.) It will also form the basis of a recall/reminder scheme that will inform parents when their child's next vaccination is expected. Other details include name of vaccinator, Medicare number, manufacturer and batch number of vaccines administered, and dates of vaccinations. There is no provision for monitoring and recording vaccine adverse reactions.

The scheme is primarily designed to counter the declining vaccination coverage rates in Australia—a trend that is mainly due to the growing concern by parents recognising the dangers and ineffectiveness of vaccinations.

The carrying out of the Register will be co-ordinated by the National Childhood Immunisation Committee (NCIC) and will be administered by the Health Insurance Commission. The NCIC had invited the public to make submissions about the implementation of the Register. Unfortunately, however, they didn't ask the public whether they actually wanted the scheme!

The implementation of the Register would greatly widen the powers of health bureaucrats and the medical establishment in achieving their agenda of universal vaccination coverage of our children. The proposed Register would empower bureaucrats and others who have a strong interest in vaccinations to have at their call a computerised, state-linked, vaccination tracking system.

Although Section 51, Part 23A of the Australian Federal Constitution is supposed to protect us from any form of compulsory medication, and this includes vaccinations, our rights can still be seized by the state. In recent times in this country, governments have shown an increasing propensity to override, circumvent or simply ignore the Constitution. This is achieved by the High Court's willingness to allow international treaties and agreements to override our Constitution.

Australia is already signatory to a number of UN agreements that could be misused by the High Court to override Section 51, Part 23A of the Constitution. Among these is the "Convention on the Rights of the Child", which imposes on signatories an obligation to "ensure the highest possible standards" of health care for children. The High Court could easily interpret this as an obligation to ensure mandatory vaccinations.

Mandatory vaccination laws already exist in many states in the USA. The following are examples of the consequences:

- A Middletown, Ohio woman, with two children killed by the DPT vaccine, received two letters from the Ohio Department of Health that her only surviving child had to be vaccinated. (*Dalton Daily News*, 11 Sept. 1988)

- A Kansas mother, in response to questioning a public health nurse about what would happen if she did not vaccinate her child, was told that the state would have her immunised and would place her in a foster home. The child was permanently handicapped by the injection. (*Graham vs. Wyeth*, No. 85-1481-K, US District of Kansas, 1987)

- A Bellefontaine woman, whose baby died 17 hours after receiving a DPT shot, was threatened with losing her WIC benefits (food assistance for low-income families with children) for refusing to vaccinate her subsequent child. (*Dayton Daily News*, 28 May 1993)

Unvaccinated children could be at a threat of being injected at their school, pre-school or other institution without parental consent or knowledge. This has already been known to happen at some pre-schools in New South Wales. The NSW Department of Health Immunisation Program Coordinator, Sue Jobson, revealed to a group of school teachers during her talk on Immunisation Regulation at the Montessori Teachers' Workshop, Meadowbank TAFE (12 Nov. 1993) that some pre-schools had had nurses in to immunise children without consent. (Letter from attending teacher, C. Shields, 13 Nov. 1993)

The proposed Register could possibly give parents a false understanding that providing information about their child's vaccination status may be obligatory, and some parents may actually believe that vaccinations have become mandatory.

As parents in a 'free' society, we should have the ultimate responsibility for protecting the rights and well-being of our children.

(Sources: *Campaign Against Fraudulent Medical Research*, PO Box 234, Lawson, NSW 2783; *Immunisation Investigation Group*, PO Box 900, Katoomba, NSW 2780, Australia)